



# SOUTHEAST IDAHO

BANNOCK, BEAR LAKE, BINGHAM, CARIBOU, FRANKLIN, ONEIDA, & POWER COUNTIES

## EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Unusually cool and wet weather during May 2004 drove the Pocatello Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate up two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.3 percent from April. Record-breaking warm temperatures throughout March and April sparked agricultural activity, numerous construction projects, and many other seasonal activities. Increased activity encouraged some discouraged workers to begin searching for jobs again in May and the area's *Civilian Labor Force* increased by 330 individuals to 40,940 from April's 40,610. Unfortunately the cool, wet weather prevented job growth that usually occurs in May. This prevented some new entrants to the labor force from obtaining work and the number of unemployed individuals increased by 120 in May to 1,780 from April's 1,660. The MSA's May 2004 unemployment rate was 1.2 percentage points lower than one year ago when it was 5.5 percent, lower than the state rate of 4.6 percent, and lower than the U.S. rate of 5.6 percent. Labor force figures for May 2004 for all seven counties in Southeast Idaho are shown in Southeast Idaho Table 2.

*Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* decreased slightly (-60) in May 2004 from April. The number of jobs in the *Goods-Producing Industries* remained the same

Southeast Idaho Table 1: Labor Force & Employment  
Pocatello City MSA (Bannock County)

	May 2004*	Apr 2004	May 2003	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
<b>INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE</b>					
<b><i>Seasonally Adjusted</i></b>					
Civilian Labor Force	40,940	40,610	40,410	0.8	1.3
Unemployment	1,780	1,660	2,210	7.2	-19.5
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.3	4.1	5.5		
Total Employment	39,160	38,950	38,200	0.5	2.5
<b><i>Unadjusted</i></b>					
Civilian Labor Force	41,080	41,310	40,540	-0.6	1.3
Unemployment	1,710	1,720	2,130	-0.6	-19.7
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.2	4.2	5.3		
Total Employment	39,370	39,590	38,410	-0.6	2.5
<b>JOB BY PLACE OF WORK</b>					
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS</b>	34,080	34,140	32,980	-0.2	3.3
<b><i>Goods-Producing Industries</i></b>	4,060	4,060	4,220	0.0	-3.8
Natural Resources & Mining	10	10	10	0.0	0.0
Construction	1,530	1,500	1,690	2.0	-9.5
Manufacturing	2,520	2,550	2,520	-1.2	0.0
Food Manufacturing	460	460	430	0.0	7.0
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	120	120	100	0.0	20.0
Machinery Manufacturing	30	30	30	0.0	0.0
Other Manufacturing	1,910	1,940	1,960	-1.5	-2.6
<b><i>Service-Providing Industries</i></b>	30,020	30,080	28,760	-0.2	4.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	6,940	6,880	6,660	0.9	4.2
Wholesale Trade	1,110	1,110	1,020	0.0	8.8
Retail Trade	4,540	4,480	4,380	1.3	3.7
Utilities	40	40	40	0.0	0.0
Transportation & Warehousing	1,250	1,250	1,220	0.0	2.5
Information	690	680	620	1.5	11.3
Financial Activities	1,810	1,820	1,930	-0.5	-6.2
Professional & Business Services	3,650	3,720	3,370	-1.9	8.3
Educational & Health Services	2,700	2,750	2,850	-1.8	-5.3
Leisure & Hospitality	3,290	3,240	3,440	1.5	-4.4
Other Services	910	930	820	-2.2	11.0
Government Education	5,660	5,750	5,070	-1.6	11.6
Government Administration	4,370	4,310	4,010	1.4	9.0

\*Preliminary Estimate

\*\*Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

Southeast Idaho Table 2: May 2004  
Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Figures for  
Southeast Idaho Counties

	Civilian Labor Force	Number Unem- ployed	Percent Unem- ployed	Number Employed
Bear Lake	2,997	135	4.5	2,862
Bingham	22,794	987	4.3	21,807
Caribou	3,318	221	6.7	3,097
Franklin	5,685	175	3.1	5,510
Oneida	1,893	47	2.5	1,846
Power	3,026	258	8.5	2,768

at 4,060 and all decreases occurred in the *Service-Providing Industries*, which fell slightly from 30,080 in April 2004 to 30,020 in May. Normal seasonal fluctuations occurred throughout the *Service-Providing Industries*. Job gains in *Retail Trade* (60), *Leisure & Hospitality* (50), and *Government Administration* (60) did not keep pace with job losses in *Professional & Business Services* (-70), *Education & Health Services* (-50), and *Government Education* (-90). Job gains occurred in *Retail Trade* and *Leisure & Hospitality* with the beginning of the summer shopping and vacation season. Most accommodation establishments reported brisk business this year as opposed to last year. Cool, wet weather reduced the need for temporary workers and service providers during the month, which

led to the job losses in *Professional & Business Services*. Job losses in *Education & Health Services* occurred equally in *Nursing & Residential Care Facilities & Social Services*.

From one-year-ago, *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* increased by 1,100. New businesses and business expansions occurred in *Trade and Professional & Business Services*. The increase in *Government Education* from May 2003 to May 2004 occurred because schools closed later this year than last year, and there was higher student employment at Idaho State University.

#### SPECIAL TOPIC: Per Capita Income

In 2002, the U.S. per capita income was \$30,906; Idaho's per capita income was \$25,476. Of the 50 states, Idaho ranked 44th in per capita income, which accounted for 82 percent of the national average.

Per capita income is determined by dividing total personal income by population. Total personal income includes net earnings such as wages, dividends, rents, interest, and government transfer payments by residents of a geographic area. Per capita income is one of many economic indicators, or gauges, of economic wellbeing. If per capita income is high, then people have more discretionary income available to purchase goods and services, which creates economic growth.

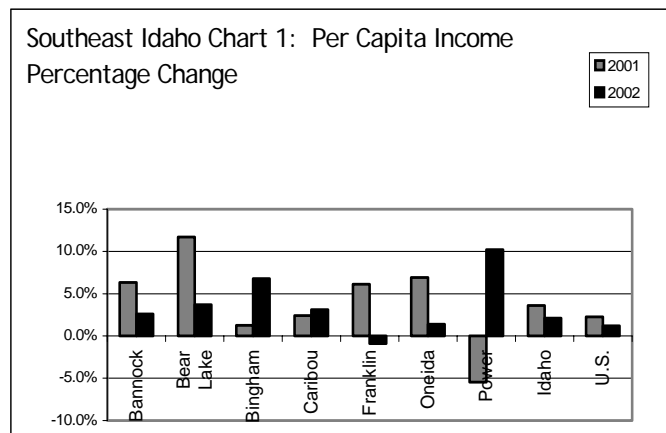
Southeast Idaho Table 3: Per Capita Income, shows the U.S., Idaho, and each Southeast Idaho county's per capita income for 2000, 2001, and 2002 as recently released by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Southeast Idaho's per capita income data was mixed. Per capita income in the seven Southeast Idaho counties ranked relatively low, but growth from 2001 to 2002 was equal or better than many other Idaho counties.

Idaho's per capita income grew 2.1 percent from 2001 to 2002 compared to the U.S. per capita income, which grew 1.2 percent. Most Southeast Idaho counties outpaced the U.S. and Idaho's overall per capita income growth rate.

In Southeast Idaho, per capita income changes ranged from a loss of nine-tenths of a percentage point in Franklin County from 2001 to 2002, to an increase of 10.2 percent in Power County, which had the highest per capita income growth rate between 2001 and 2002. Power County's rank improved from 28<sup>th</sup> among Idaho's 44 counties to 26<sup>th</sup>. Payouts made to dislocated Astaris workers, as well as improved farm incomes, probably contributed to the large increase in per capita income in Power County. The large increase is likely a one-time anomaly occurring because of settlement payments from the closure of Astaris, LLC. The business closed at the end of 2001 and workers received settlement payments in 2002. In a small county, even a few settlements would have a large effect on the rate of change. Oneida County had the smallest increase in per capita income at 1.4 percent and Franklin County experienced the only decline in per capita income at -0.9 percent. Falling farm income likely contributed to the drop in Franklin County's per capita income. Oneida County ranked 43<sup>rd</sup> in per capita income of Idaho's 44 counties and its ranking did not change from 2001. Franklin County remained ranked at 39<sup>th</sup>. Southeast Idaho Chart 1, Per Capita Income Percentage Change compares county per capita income changes in 2001 and 2002.

County/ Area	2000	2001	2002	Percent Change 2001-2002
<b>Bannock</b>	\$20,860	\$22,180	\$22,754	2.6
<b>Bear Lake</b>	\$16,684	\$18,637	\$19,320	3.7
<b>Bingham</b>	\$19,269	\$19,513	\$20,839	6.8
<b>Caribou</b>	\$20,605	\$21,102	\$21,749	3.1
<b>Franklin</b>	\$18,641	\$19,781	\$19,610	-0.9
<b>Oneida</b>	\$16,252	\$17,375	\$17,620	1.4
<b>Power</b>	\$20,640	\$19,515	\$21,512	10.2
<b>Idaho</b>	24,076	24,947	25,476	2.1
<b>U.S.</b>	29,847	30,527	30,906	1.2



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